Message Text

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R 211148Z DEC 76 FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1013 INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA AMEMBASSY LONDON AMEMBASSY PARIS AMEMBASSY LISBON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ZA, AO, CG

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT KAUNDA VISIT TO KINSHASA

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED:

- 1. BEGIN SUMMARY: AFTER 24 HOUR STAY IN KINSHASA, PRESIDENT KAUNDA MET WITH PRESS AND DISCUSSED SOUTHERN RHODESIA, ZAIRIAN-ZAMBIAN RELATIONS AND INCREASE IN OIL PRICES. AT SAME PRESS INTERVIEW, MOBUTU COMMENTED ON SAME SUBJECTS AS WELL AS ZAIRE'S RELATIONS WITH ANGOLA. END SUMMARY.
- 2. PRESIDENT KAUNDA MADE 24 HOUR VISIT TO KINSHASA DECEMBER 18-19, WHICH WAS PRIMARILY TAKEN UP WITH DISCUSSIONS WITH MOBUTU. IN PRESS CONFERENCE DECEMBER 19, PRIOR TO HIS RETURN TO LUSAKA, KAUNDA MADE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A) ZAMBIAN-ZAIRIAN RELATIONS: TWO PRESIDENTS AGREED TO ESTABLISHMENT OF PERMANENT COMMISSION TO REGULARIZE RELATIONS BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES AND WHOLE RANGE OF BILATERAL QUESTIONS (MIXED COMMISSION IN SHABA DEALS PRIMARILY WITH RESTITUTION OF GOODS SEIZED ON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EITHER SIDE OF ZAMBIAN-ZAIRIAN BORDER).
B) SOUTHERN RHODESIA: PURPOSE OF GENEVA MEETINGS IS TO SOLVE
ALREADY EXISTING PROBLEM OF ARMED CONFLICT IN ORDER TO FACILITATE
PROCESS TOWARD MAJORITY RULE. AFRICA LOSES NOTHING. IF NEGOTIATIONS GO ON, THIS IS FINE. IF THEY FAIL, THE WAR WILL BE PURSUED.
IN EITHER EVENTUALITY OAU OBJECTIVES FOR ZIMBABWE WILL BE IMPLE-

MENTED. GENEVA CONFERENCE REPRESENTS BREAKTHROUGH IN THE SENSE THAT SMITH WENT TO GENEVA TO DISCUSS TURNING OVER GOVERNMENT TO MAJORITY. THIS IS A REVERSAL OF HIS EARLIER POSITION AND IT IS HOPED HE WILL HOLD TO PROMISE OF ACCEPTING MAJORITY RULE AS ENVISAGED BY ANGLO-AMERICAN PLAN. KAUNDA WAS UNAWARE OF A REPORT THAT MUGABE HAD GONE TO YUGOSLAVIA TO PURCHASE ARMS, BUT HE ENCOURAGED NATIONALISTS TO PROCURE WEAPONS TO CONTINUE STRUGGLE IN EVENT OF FAILURE OF GENEVA CONFERENCE.

C) OIL PRICE INCREASE: KAUNDA THANKED KING OF SAUDI ARABIA FOR NOT RAISING PRICE OF OIL BEYOND 5 PERCENT, NOTING THAT 15 PER CENT RISE WOULD BRING ABOUT INCREASE IN PRICE OF FINISHED PRODUCTS AND THUS HURT UNDER DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT OIL PRODUCING COUNTRIES PROVIDED INSIGNIFICANT ASSISTANCE TO NON-PRODUCING STATES, ADDING THAT "FOR ME TRUE AID WOULD BE THE REFUSAL OF OIL PRODUCING COUNTRIES TO INCREASE THE PRICE OF PETROLEUM".

D) COPPER: CALLED UPON COPPER PRODUCING STATES TO INTENSIFY AND DIVERSIFY PRODUCTION IN ORDER TO GET OUT OF AN INDUSTRIAL ECONOMY AND FALL BACK ON AGRICULTURE.

3. AT SAME PRESS CONFERENCE MOBUTU MADE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A) SOUTHERN AFRICA: INDEPENDENCE IN ZIMBABWE AND NAMIBIA IS
IRREVERSIBLE. SMITH HAS RECOGNIZED PRINCIPLE OF MAJORITY RULE AND
HIS COMINGS AND GOINGS TO GENEVA PROVE HE IS SLOWLY RETURNING TO
REASON. REAL DIFFICULTY IS IN SOUTH AFRICA WHERE THE STRUGGLE
MUST CONTINUE UNTIL THE WHITES REALIZE THAT BLACKS SHOULD RULE.
THIS IS NOT RACISM. WHITES, WHO ARE IN MINORITY, HAVE LIVED ON
CONTINENT FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS AND CAN REMAIN BUT SHOULD BE
PREPARED TO RESPECT RIGHT OF MAJORITY TO GOVERN.
B) ANGOLA: IN ANSWER TO QUESTION, MOBUTU DENIED CHARGE BY ANGOLAN
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EMISSARY LUVUALU THAT REOPENING OF BENGUELA RAILROAD WAS BEING HELD UP BY GOZ. MOBUTU FIRST POINTED OUT THAT LUVUALU HAD BEEN BORN AND BRED IN ZAIRE, HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN A TEACHER, HAD BEEN ARRESTED TWICE, AND SUBSEQUENTLY HAD BEEN EXPELLED FROM THE COUNTRY BECAUSE OF HIS SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES. MOBUTU THEN STATED THAT ANGOLAN AUTHORITIES HAD NEVER BROUGHT "THE MATTER TO ATTENT-ION OF GOZ WHICH LEARNED OF THEM THROUGH THE PRESS". A COUNTRY CANNOT BE DIRECTED BY LIES. HE CONTINUED, ZAIRE, HE SAID, ATTACHED MUCH IMPORTANCE TO REOPENING OF RAILROAD FOR ITS EXPORTS AND IMPORTS. ZAIRE'S GOOD FAITH, HE NOTED, HAD BEEN DEMONSTRATED IN ITS SUPPORT OF PRA'S MEMBERSHIP IN UN, WHO, AND UNESCO. IT WAS FURTHER SHOWN IN GOZ'S ACCEPTANCE OF PRA REQUEST FOR MEETING OF MIXED COMMISSION AND SENDING OF ZAIRIAN DELEGATION TO BRAZZAVILLE DECEMBER 11 AND 13 FOR THAT PURPOSE. ALTHOUGH ANGOLAN SIDE NEVER APPEARED, GOZ, HE CONCLUDED, REMAINED READY TO MEET WITH PRA REPRESENTATIVES. END UNCLASSIFIED.

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4. COMMENT: MOBUTU'S REFERENCE TO ABORTIVE MEETING OF ANGOLAN-ZAIRIAN MIXED COMMISSION IS FIRST PUBLIC MENTION OF ITS HAVING BEEN SCHEDULED. WE UNDERSTAND THAT MOBUTU'S PUBLIC REITERATION OF WILLINGNESS TO MEET WITH ANGOLANS WAS PRIVATELY REAFFIRMED TO THEM FOR SECOND TIME IN LAST FOUR WEEKS THROUGH CUBANS AND SOVIETS. CUBANS AND SOVIETS AGAIN CONVEYED SIMILAR ASSURANCES ON PART OF PRA TO GOZ. EACH SIDE APPEARS TO ONCE AGAIN BE WAITING FOR THE OTHER TO MAKE THE FIRST MOVE. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. CUTLER

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